

Study blows lid off China's N-aid to Pak

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA S & S

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5. — A study by the Centre for Non-Proliferation Studies has blown the lid off Beijing's continuous nuclear assistance to Islamabad — that helped Pakistan become a significant nuclear and missile power in South Asia.

Despite China's persistent denial, the Monterey Institute of International Studies — which conducted the study — says Beijing had given Pakistan a variety of nuclear products and services, ranging from uranium enrichment technology to research and power reactors.

US Intelligence agencies say the study reports, that Beijing had by 1983 transferred a complete nuclear weapon design — a 25 kiloton nuclear bomb, possibly a chic-4 — to Islamabad, along with enough weapons-

grade uranium for two nuclear weapons.

In 1986, China concluded a comprehensive nuclear cooperation agreement with Pakistan and in the same year, they began assisting Islamabad with the enrichment of weapons-grade uranium. China also reportedly transferred enough tritium gas to Pakistan for 10 nuclear weapons.

In 1989, China allegedly involved Pakistani scientists in a nuclear test at its Lop Nur test site.

In 1994-95, China sold 5,000 ring magnets to the AQ Khan Research Lab at Kahuta which were used in gas centrifuges to make weapons grade enriched uranium. The destination of the magnets, the research lab, is not subject to international atomic energy safeguards and is believed to be involved with

Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme.

China has also routinely supplied Pakistan heavy water (D2O) needed for safeguarding Kanupp facility and operating some reactors like the Khushab facility, to be used for producing plutonium for nuclear weapons.

Beijing also sold a special industrial furnace for the Khushab facility in 1996 and its scientists were reportedly in Pakistan to help install the furnace. The furnace can be used to melt uranium into the shape of a nuclear bomb core besides having civilian applications.

Beijing also reached a deal with Pakistan to supply heavy water to the Kanupp facility, but the deal was delayed due to concerns that it might be diverted to the nearby unmanned facility.

For the Chashma pressurized water reactor (300 mw), China supplied auxiliary equipment, including heaters, condensers, and water tanks in 1996.

The Parr-3 research reactor (27kw) at Rawalpindi, under IAEA safeguards, was built and designed with Chinese assistance in 1989, the study said.

China also exported a power plant computer system in 1997 but discussions for sale of a second facility for the Chashma site were delayed over financing arrangements (1995-96).

The study also gives details of Chinese exports of missiles, components and related technologies to Pakistan. It provided ballistic missiles and launchers, up to 30 m-11/df-11 missiles to the Sargodha air force base near Lahore in 1992 and m-11 transporter-erector-launchers in 1991.

Pak carries war to cyberspace

UNITED NEWS OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, Sept. 5. — Pakistan has taken the proxy war in Kashmir to the cyberspace.

Hackers from across the border have managed to deface as many as 52 strategically important Indian sites in August alone, reports an industry news portal. "Pakistani crackers have begun an all out assault on Indian websites. From the typical one or two attacks per month, the number rose to 52 in August," *itspace.com* said in its lead story today. They have been replacing a site's homepage with a page thrown in with expletives and anti-India statements and jokes and strewn with accounts of the "atrocities against the Kashmiris by the Indian forces".

G Force Pakistan led the pack with 41 defacement attacks in August while MOS (which bills itself the Harkat-ul-MOS) tried to wreck eight in the same month. The attacks peaked on 15 August, when G Force defaced 13 Indian sites. The sites attacked include those of corporates, educational institutions like the Indian Institute of Management-Indore, University of Mumbai and the Walchand College of Engineering, and a host of government sites.

Information about the hacks is also on a few security-related sites like safemode.org and attrition.org. When contacted, attrition.org was convinced that the attacks did indeed take place and that the attributions to G Force and MOS were correct. Pakistani hackers had reportedly defaced some Indian defence sites immediately after the Kargil war.

A leading information technology portal said that the defacement was a lot more serious than what it appeared to be. "The threat from Pakistan is much more than mere defacement of the site. The guys from G Force, typically upload a root kit which allows them to take control of a site. They then proceed to shut down login systems. After that, they can literally do anything."

THE STATESMAN

6 SEP 2000

China constant supplier of N-products to Pak: Study

Washington, September 5

DESPITE CHINA'S persistent denial that it did not encourage nuclear proliferation, a recent study by a US think-tank has indicated that Beijing has been a constant supplier of a variety of nuclear products and services to Pakistan, ranging from uranium enrichment technology to research and power reactors.

The study published by the Centre for Non-Proliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies has come up with fresh details about how China helped Pakistan become a significant nuclear and missile power in South Asia.

US intelligence agencies said the study had reported, as early as 1983, that Beijing had by then transferred a complete nuclear weapon design to Islamabad, along with enough weapons-grade uranium for two nuclear weapons.

In 1986, China concluded a comprehensive nuclear cooperation agreement with Pakistan and in the same year, they began assisting Islamabad with the enrichment of weapons-grade uranium. China also reportedly transferred enough tritium gas to Pakistan for 10 nuclear weapons. In 1989, China allegedly involved Pakistani scientists in a nuclear test at its Lopnur test site. In 1994-95 5,000 China sold ring magnets to a Q. Khan research lab at Kahuta which were used in gas centrifuges to make weapons grade enriched uranium. The destination of the magnets, the research lab, is not subject to International Atomic Energy safeguards and is believed to be involved with Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme.

China has also routinely supplied Pakistan heavy water (D2O) which was needed, both for safeguarding Kanupp facility as well as for operating some reactors

like the Khushab facility, to be used for producing plutonium for nuclear weapons.

Beijing also sold a special industrial furnace for the Khushab facility in 1996 and Chinese scientists were reportedly in Pakistan to help install the furnace, the study said, adding the furnace can be used to melt uranium into the shape of a nuclear bomb core besides having civilian applications.

In 1983, China supplied Pakistan the complete design of a nuclear weapon—a 25 kiloton nuclear bomb, possibly a Chic-4. China reportedly reached a deal with Pakistan to supply heavy water to the Kanupp facility but the deal was delayed due to concerns that it might be diverted to the nearby unmanned facility. For the Chashma pressurized water reactor (300 mw), under International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) safeguards, China supplied auxiliary equipment, including heaters, condensers, and water tanks in 1996. China also exported a power plant computer system in 1997 but discussions for Chinese sale of a second facility for the Chashma site were delayed over financing arrangements (1995-96). The Parr-3 research reactor (27 kw) at Rawalpindi, under IAEA safeguards, was built and designed with Chinese assistance in 1989, the study said. The study also gives details of Chinese exports of missiles, components and related technologies to Pakistan. China provided ballistic missiles and launchers, up to 30 M-11/DF-11 missiles to Pakistan's Sargodha air force base near Lahore in 1992 and M-11 transporter-erector-launchers in 1991. It exported cruise missiles Hy-1, Hy-2, FL-1 and FL-2 and helped develop Pakistan's indigenous ballistic missiles Hatf-1, Hatf-2 (similar to M-11), Hatf-3 (similar to M-9) or Pakistani designation for M-11), follow-on to Hatf-3 (Hatf-M) and Anza surface-to-air missile. (PTI)

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

6 SEP 2000

China aiding Pak nuke programme: NYT

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REUTERS & PTI

NEW YORK, July 2. — US Intelligence agencies have told the Clinton administration and Congress that China continues to aid Pakistan's effort to build long-range missiles that could carry nuclear weapons, *The New York Times* reported today.

In a series of classified briefings on Capitol Hill on Thursday, the agencies described how China has stepped up shipment of specialty steels, guidance systems and technical expertise to Pakistan, after India and Pakistan set off nuclear tests in 1998.

Chinese experts have also been sighted around Pakistan's newest missile factory, which appears partly based on a Chinese design.

On Tuesday, the Clinton administration will send a delegation to Beijing to discuss the issue in detail, the first high-level negotiations over missile exports since November 1998.

Headed by Mr John Holum, senior adviser to secretary of state, Mrs Madeleine Albright, the delegation will include several other high-ranking offi-

MUSHARRAF PLANES

ISLAMABAD, July 2. — Pakistan is planning to buy Chinese F-7 fighter planes to strengthen its air force, a Pakistani newspaper reported today. "We are going to have a deal with China because the government wants to make the air force strong," the daily quoted General Musharraf as saying. "We purchase a lot of things from China with whom we have a very old relationship." — AP

cials. Talks with China were suspended for over a year after the "accidental" American bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade.

A senior American general has called the arming of Pakistan "a longer-range issue" that persists despite President Jiang Zemin's assurances to Mr Clinton two years ago that Beijing would review its aid to Pakistan.

The White House has argued for several years that the Chinese have abided by agreements to halt exports of nuclear and chemical weapons

to Iran, North Korea and other nations that the US considers a strategic concern.

But the continuing export of missile parts and technology to Pakistan are creating a raft of political problems. They are complicating President Clinton's effort to win quick Senate passage of a Bill, establishing normal trade relations with China.

Legislation granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations to China was approved by the House of Representatives in May and is awaiting Senate approval.

Pak merchants: The Pakistan police beat merchants with clubs today to disperse a crowd protesting against a plan to collect more taxes from businessmen. Six people were injured in the scuffle, while several others sustained minor injuries, adds AP from Multan

Media blitz: Over 60 journalists from South Asia — mostly from India — have been invited to Pakistan for a regional media conference titled, "Towards a free, fair and vibrant media" under the auspices of The News, part of the Jang publication group, IANS reports from Islamabad.

THE STATESMAN

3 JUL 2000

China arms sale to Pak punctures Delhi high

FROM K.P. NAYAR

Washington, July 4: The euphoria in the BJP over Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's recent foreign policy successes and global initiatives by his senior ministerial colleagues has proved to be short-lived with revelations here that China has resumed full-scale missile technology aid to Pakistan in violation of a 1994 agreement with the Clinton administration to comply with the provisions of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

A high-level delegation led by John Holum, senior adviser on

arms control to the US secretary of state, is leaving for Beijing today following classified intelligence briefings here last week that China has stepped up supplies of guidance systems, technical expertise and special quality steel for Pakistan's missile programmes.

The briefings also spoke of Chinese experts having been seen near Pakistan's missile sites, built on Chinese design.

These briefings come amidst claims in New Delhi of dramatic and positive changes in the climate of friendship between India and China as a result of several of-

ficial and ministerial exchanges.

The revelations have put paid to fond hopes of achievements in foreign and security policy raised by the BJP last week. If anything, they suggest that notwithstanding high profile trips by ministers to a string of world capitals, the fundamental threats to Indian security continue and that New Delhi is helpless to do anything about it.

Compounding New Delhi's woes about the dangers of a revived missile technology cooperation between China and Pakistan, US assistant secretary of state for south Asia, Karl Inderfurth, said

during the weekend that any improved Indo-US relations could not be "at the expense" of Washington's "long-standing ties" with Islamabad.

Speaking at a function organised in New York by the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAP), Inderfurth conceded that "great expectations" have been raised of better relations with India following President Bill Clinton's visit.

He said the time had come to "take stock" of the presidential trip to south Asia and added that US had long-standing friendship with Pakistan.

In another development which should worry the BJP leadership, complacent over their government's self-claimed foreign policy successes, the Clinton administration last month quietly lifted half a century-old sanctions against North Korea following an agreement between Pyongyang and Washington on nuclear issues and North Korea's efforts to introduce a thaw in ties with its estranged south.

The sanctions, against Kim Jong-il's Stalinist regime were lifted without so much as a discussion here about North Korea's defence cooperation with Pak-

istan, which has included supplies of fully-assembled missiles to Islamabad.

The visit to Beijing by Holum and his delegation too is not the result of any concern here about dangers to India as a result of Pakistan's Chinese-aided missile programme.

On the other hand, Clinton is worried that new revelations about Sino-Pakistan missile cooperation may jeopardise his carefully laid plans for senate approval for Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) with China.

PNTR for China is one of Clinton's policy objectives before lay-

ing down office and the house of representatives has already approved the legislation.

Senate rejection of the proposal could send it back to the House and lead to a limbo until a new President takes over.

Sources here said the Chinese are expected to tell Holum, if at all, that the 1994 agreement with the Clinton administration only covered supplies of fully assembled M-11 missiles to Pakistan and not components or technology.

It would then be anybody's guess how New Delhi reacts to US inaction on this issue.

THE TELEGRAPH

5 JUL 2000

China denies selling missile technology

REUTERS

BEIJING, July 4. — China today denied it was selling missile technology to Pakistan. "I want to state clearly that there is no such thing as Chinese sales of missile technology to Pakistan", Mr Sun Yuxi, foreign ministry spokesman, told a news conference in response to a report by *The New York Times*. "The report is totally groundless", he said.

The newspaper said on Sunday that in a series of classified briefings in Congress, intelligence agencies described how China stepped up the shipment of specialty steels, guidance systems and technical expertise to Pakistan. Islamabad, which conducted nuclear tests in 1998 after test blasts by India, said yesterday it had no missile cooperation with China "at the present moment".

Mr Abdul Sattar, foreign minister, told a news conference that Pakistan had a "sufficiently advanced" missile programme to conduct the necessary research itself.

He said Pakistan had told the USA in 1993 that China, one of Pakistan's closest diplomatic allies, had supplied it with "a limited number of short-range tactical missiles" without contravening its obligations under the international Missile Technology Control Regime. Since then there has been no allegation, to the best of our knowledge, against China having done anything inconsistent with its commitment to the MTCR," Mr Sattar said in Islamabad. "I can reaffirm that Pakistan has not received any transfers inconsistent with China's obligations under the MTCR," which attempts to control the spread of missile technology.

THE STATESMAN

5 JUL 2000

China plays cool to US concern over missile aid

N C Menon
Washington, July 9

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IT BECAME clear to the Clinton Administration here today that Beijing is no hurry to address US concerns over continuing Chinese assistance for Pakistan's ballistic missile programme, as reported by American intelligence agencies.

"We raised our concern that China has provided aid to Pakistan and other countries," John D Holum, senior adviser on arms control who led a high power delegation to Beijing was quoted as say-

ing. "We made progress, but the issue remains unresolved."

A diplomat here quipped: "China has been denying for over a decade that they have given Pakistan any restricted missile or technology, and each time the US applies pressure, they promise not to do it again."

But this time around, Beijing does not seem to have bothered even to do that. According to Mr Holum, the Chinese complained about American sales of weapons

to Taiwan. China is actually worried about US plans for national and Asian-theater missile defenses, which could draw Taiwan into an

Sino-Pak missile ties

American protective umbrella and negate

the deterrent power of Chinese nuclear forces.

Mr Holum did not do anything to ease that concern when he stated that "we don't rule out the possibility that some time in the future Taiwan might be included in an Asian missile shield."

That being the US stance, Beijing is unlikely to compromise on its exports of missile technology to Pakistan because it considers the export a powerful bargaining chip in its talks with the US over Taiwan.

Mr Holum also praised China for evolving into "a major participant" in non-proliferation efforts. But that is seen here as an attempt to appease Senators who are determined to link the China Permanent Normal Trade Relations Bill to a legislation aimed specifically at restricting China's missile aid to Pakistan.

THE TRIBUNE

July 10, 1997

'China-Pak nexus viewed seriously'

New Delhi, July 27

INDIA CONTINUES to view with serious concern the ongoing missile-related cooperation between Pakistan and China following media reports of Chinese shipments of special steels, guidance systems and technical expertise to Pakistan, the Rajya Sabha was informed today.

The Government has taken note of the information contained in the media report and was alert to all developments that have a bearing on India's security, Minister of State for External Affairs Ajit Kumar Panja said in a written reply.

Mr Panja said a senior American official on July 8 at the conclusion of US-China non-proliferation talks in Beijing had said that

the US had raised its concerns over the reports that Chinese entities had provided assistance to missile programmes in Pakistan and some other countries. To another question, he said the American sanctions on certain Chinese entities for missile transfers to Pakistan have neither been consistent or robust enough to completely deter such transfers. New Delhi has been conveying to the US the adverse effect on India's security of continuing transfers of nuclear and missile technology and equipment to Pakistan.

Mr Panja said during his visit to China, President K R Narayanan had met his Chinese counterpart and sought support for India's proposal at United Nations for adoption of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism. (PTI)

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

China will not sacrifice her ties with Pakistan

Beijing, June 1: China has indicated that it will not sacrifice its "all-weather" relationship with Pakistan while attempting to improve and develop Sino-Indian relations. "The development and improvement of Sino-Indian relations will not have any adverse impact on the friendly relations and cooperation between China and Pakistan vice-versa," a senior Chinese foreign ministry official said on Wednesday.

At an informal briefing on President K.R. Narayanan's talks with Chinese leadership here this week, the official, seeking anonymity, said the two sides discussed tense situation in Indo-Pak relations.

"The Chinese government pursues a friendly and good-neighbourly relationship with India and hopes that Sino-Indian relations will constantly improve and develop. China pursues a similar policy towards Pakistan," he said. China and Pakistan enjoyed a traditional friendship, and Chinese policy was to "further consolidate and develop" its relations with Islamabad, the official said. "Sino-Indian relations are conducive to the development of Sino-Pakistani relations and the Sino-Pakistani relations are also conducive to Sino-Indian relations," the official said. He said visiting Indian President briefed his counterpart on New Delhi's present policy towards Islamabad and Chinese President Jiang Zemin said that Beijing hoped to see the settlement of differences.

THE ASIAN AGE

2 JUN 2007

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China not to sacrifice ties with Pakistan

BEIJING, JUNE 1. China has indicated that it will not sacrifice its "all-weather" relationship with Pakistan while attempting to improve and develop Sino-Indian relations. "The development and improvement of Sino-Indian relations will not have any adverse impact on the friendly relations and cooperation between China and Pakistan," a senior Chinese Foreign Ministry official said on Wednesday.

At an informal briefing on the President, Mr. K. R. Narayanan's talks with the Chinese leadership here this week, the official, seeking anonymity, said the two sides discussed the tense situation in India-Pakistan relations.

"The Chinese Government pursues a friendly and good-neighbourly relationship with India and hopes Sino-Indian relations will constantly improve and develop. China pursues a similar policy towards Pakistan," he said.

He said the visiting Indian President briefed his counterpart on New Delhi's present policy towards Islamabad and the Chinese President, Mr. Jiang Zemin, in turn stressed that Beijing hoped to see the settlement of existing differences between the two neighbours through a dialogue so that peace and stability was restored in the region. — PTI

THE HINDU

2 JUN 200

Pak.-China plane project runs into rough weather

By Amit Baruah

ISLAMABAD, MAY 7. A joint Pakistan-China fighter aircraft project, the Super 7, is in deep trouble following the refusal of European nations to "provide avionics for the aircraft under U.S. pressure", the *Dawn* magazine reported today.

This is a setback for the Pakistan Air Force, which was looking to the Super 7 to replace ageing fighter planes in its inventory. A letter of intent to produce the aircraft was signed between China and Pakistan in February 1998, with both agreeing to share the development cost equally. According to the report, bids for three avionics packages for the project, including radars, head-up and head-down displays, mission computers and inertial navigation systems were to be submitted by Thomson-CSF of France, Alenia-Fiar of Italy and BAE Systems of the United Kingdom.

"Now, that (the supply of avionics) seems out of the question as European countries have started listening closely to U.S. concerns over Pakistan's foreign policy and supply of sensitive systems to China," the report said adding that the airframe of the Super 7 was to be developed by Chengdu, a Chinese firm.

"Earlier, the U.S. stopped an American firm, Allied Signal, from selling Garrett TFE731 engines for the Karakoram K-8 jet trainer to China over (sic) fears that some equipment in it could be used to build Cruise missiles. The decision hurt the K-8 project which was also financed by Pakistan," the *Dawn* said.

Though the Chinese have said they would turn to Russia to supply the avionics, the report said that given the situation in Central Asia and the role of the Taliban, Moscow "would decline to send avionics to Pakistan".

THE HINDU

MAY 2000

China is pleased with Pak assurance not to back rebels

BEIJING: China is pleased with repeated Pakistani assurance that it would not support Afghan militants or separatists fighting for independence in north-west China's Xinjiang region, a senior Chinese official has said.

"The Pakistani government has on many occasions expressed respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China and supported China's efforts in this respect. We appreciate that," Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhu Bangzao said on Wednesday.

Interestingly, Mr Zhu did not deny recent press reports that claimed Beijing has expressed concern to Islamabad on the activities of Taliban in China's predominantly Muslim Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region adjoining Pakistan.

Last week, Pakistani foreign secretary Inam-ul Haque had dismissed these reports as "speculative."

"China has not lodged any complaint with Pakistan over Taliban policies and the reports are speculative," Haque was quoted as saying by media reports from Islamabad.

But diplomatic sources said during military ruler General Pervez Musharraf's high profile visit to Beijing, Chinese leaders sought and received firm assurance from the chief executive that Islamabad would not allow anti-China activities from its soil. However, the Chinese concern seems confined to Xinjiang, a diplomatic source commented while adding that Beijing appeared unconcerned by cross-border terrorism in Kashmir. Commenting on Sino-Pakistani relations and their efforts to build a comprehensive partnership, the spokesman said such an effort was conducive to peace and stability in the region.

Mr Zhu said China and Pakistan are friendly neighbours and the two countries enjoyed good and mutually beneficial co-operation in various fields. During Chinese President Jiang Zemin's visit to Pakistan in 1996, the leaders of the two countries decided to jointly establish a Sino-Pakistani co-operative partnership oriented towards the 21st century, he said. It not only conforms to the fundamental interests of the two nations, but also is conducive to improve peace and development in the region, the spokesman said. (PTI)

THE TIMES OF INDIA

- 2 MAR 2000

'US to highlight its concerns'

N.C. Menon
Washington, March 9

STATE DEPARTMENT
spokesman James Rubin made it clear yesterday that during his stopover in Islamabad, President Clinton would make known to the Pakistani leadership, in clear terms, US concerns in various areas.

Rubin reiterated that Clinton was going to Pakistan because the US is a friend of the Pakistani nation and not because Clinton approved of or acquiesced in the Musharraf government.

"We have made clear our concerns about democracy, made clear our profound concerns about not enough being done to combat terrorism, and we have made clear our profound concerns about non-

proliferation."

Conflict in South Asia could affect US interests, he added.

Clinton had been able to play an important role in diffusing such conflicts in the past, notably with his meetings with Nawaz Sharif in Washington last July.

The US believed that staying in contact and having communi-

Clinton's visit to Pak

ties channels with both sides could prove extremely important in the future.

Responding to the reported complaint from India that meeting with coup leaders in Pakistan would give them some legitimacy, Rubin pointed out that the de facto situation was that Gen. Musharraf was in charge, and that was a fact.

Besides, "it is also our view that the US ability to play a role last summer was welcomed by the Indian government and the Indian government saw it in their interest to have the kind of communication between the US and the leader in Pakistan."

Answering a question on how Pakistan had been a friend of the US in recent years, Rubin cited cooperation in counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics efforts, which were in the national interests of the US.

Asked why Gen Musharraf, "who was running the show in Kargil," should be willing to clamp down on the insurgent groups in Kashmir, the spokesman evaded the question by claiming that the Kashmir question was a very complex one and repeating the importance of having a channel of communication.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

10 MAR 2000

Musharraf's visit to Afghanistan aimed at pacifying China

Islamabad, February 19

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES in the Pakistan capital are claiming that Pakistan Chief Executive General Pervez Musharraf's impending visit to Afghanistan to meet senior Taliban leaders, including Mullah Mohammad Omar, is only aimed at pacifying an angry Chinese Government.

Beijing's repeated expressions of concern over Pak's encouragement of Islamic militancy in Pakistan and Afghanistan, has prompted it to put pressure on Musharraf to visit Afghanistan to meet Omar, the diplomatic sources revealed.

"There is clearly a hand in Musharraf's declared decision to make an unexpected visit to Afghanistan," a Western diplomat told *The News*. "We see China's hand," he added. According to him, the move is "a logical way forward" of Beijing's discernible decision to launch itself diplomatically into the "militant" N. Asia because "the region has the world's highest numbers of active soldiers as well as private guerrillas". (ANI)

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

20 FEB 2000

China wants
Clinton to
visit Pak.

BEIJING, FEB. 20 China has reportedly advised the U.S. to include Pakistan in the U.S. President, Mr. Bill Clinton's South Asian tour next month, diplomatic sources here have said.

"China has reportedly told the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Mr. Strobe Talbott, that Mr. Clinton should visit Pakistan if Washington wants to see an end to tension in South Asia," a diplomatic source told PTI here.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry had earlier said that the non-inclusion of Pakistan in the itinerary was a matter between Islamabad and Washington.

The just-concluded two-day Sino-U.S. strategic security consultations gave Beijing an opportunity to air its views on South Asia and coordinate stands on the South Asian nuclear issue.

Mr. Talbott briefed the Chinese side on the 10 rounds of talks he had so far held with the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Jaswant Singh, on nuclear non-proliferation and security issues in the South Asian region.

However, the Taiwan issue dominated the talks.—PTI

THE HINDU

21 FEB 2000

Musharraf to visit China

REUTERS

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 10. — The Pakistan's chief executive, General Pervez Musharraf, will visit China later this month, the official APP news agency said.

It will be Gen Musharraf's first visit to Pakistan's key ally since the October coup.

He will leave on 17 January for a two-day trip. It said Gen Musharraf would hold bilateral talks with Chinese leaders but provided no other details.

China is one of Pakistan's closest allies, and the military and political leaders of the countries regularly exchange visits.

THE STATESMAN
11 JAN 2000

Terrorism, Kashmir to dominate Sino-Pak talks

Beijing, January 16

AP (A)

Nuclear power plant a sore point

THE CHINESE-designed Chashma nuclear power plant (CHASNUPP) on the banks of the Indus river in Punjab is becoming a bone of contention between Pakistan and China. Sources claimed that there was a fire in the plant late last month but the government ensured it was not reported by the press. CHASNUPP will be a major subject of Pak-Sino discussion during Gen Pervez Musharraf's visit, according to sources. Independent nuclear experts in Pakistan have never been at ease about the design and the location of this plant. This was brought out at a panel discussion on this plant at the sustainable policy development institute here last month.

There was a view that CHASNUPP was built on a very dangerous site and has design flaws which could lead to a major nuclear disaster. Dr A H Nayar of the physics department of Quaid-e-Azam university quoted a report of a Columbian University team, which made studies here, to say that the plant was located at a seismic fault and near the earthquake centre. (UNI)

would want to emphasise they would not like to be victims of fundamentalism in the restive Muslim-majority area of Xinjiang, where some Pakistanis have infiltrated," he said.

Analysts said the Chinese has also seen hijacking of the Indian Airlines flight from Nepal last month and taken note of India's

Musharraf's Visit to China

assertion that it was masterminded by Pakistan.

Gen. Musharraf, who follows a hard-line policy on the Kashmir issue would like to use his first visit to China as the self-appointed Chief Executive of Pakistan, to garner maximum support from the Chinese on the issue.

"Knowing fully well that the ousted Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif had to cut short

his trip to Beijing last year in view of the latter's 'neutral' stand during height of the Kargil conflict, Musharraf is expected to try hard to retrieve lost ground," another analyst said.

The Foreign Ministers of China and Pakistan have said Musharraf's visit would refresh ties between two traditional allies, whose relations have stood the test of time.

Analysts said Musharraf wanted to visit Beijing much earlier but was held back by the Chinese who wanted to gauge international reaction to toppling of the Sharif government.

In Beijing, Musharraf is scheduled to hold talks with president Jiang Zemin, Premier Zhu Rongji and call on Speaker Li Peng.

"The visit is intended to reaffirm Pakistan's close and cordial ties with China," a Pakistani official said adding that Musharraf would hold an "in-depth exchange of views" with the Chinese leadership. (PTI)

Musharraf in China for two-day visit, to discuss security issues

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
BEIJING, JAN 17

PAKISTANI military ruler General Pervez Musharraf arrived here on Monday for a two-day visit which is expected to focus on regional security issues.

Musharraf, who ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif in an October 12 coup, issued a statement shortly after his arrival describing China as Pakistan's "most reliable and trusted friend". Musharraf said he looked forward to holding in-depth discussions with Chinese leaders on the security situation and on steps Pakistan has taken to bring peace and stability to the region.

"It is a great pleasure and privilege for me to visit the people's republic of China - a country which Pakistan holds dear as its most reliable and trusted

friend," Musharraf said in the statement. "My visit to China is a reaffirmation of our close and fraternal ties," the statement further said.

Musharraf said the two countries would strive to further strengthen their relations in the new century. "China has stood by Pakistan in difficult times. Our relations have remained strong and steadfast, notwithstanding the cataclysmic changes in the political and security environment at the international, regional or domestic level," Musharraf said. "I am confident that my visit would further fortify our ties, strengthen our mutually beneficial relations and enhance mutual cooperation in international fora," he added.

Musharraf was scheduled to meet Prime Minister Zhu Rongji later on Monday evening. He will hold talks with

Chinese number two Li Peng and President Jiang Zemin on Tuesday. China's official Xinhua news agency said Musharraf's discussions here would concern "bilateral ties and regional and international issues of common concern".

China has long been a crucial ally, providing vital military equipment and acting as a counterweight to Pakistan's arch-rival India and the influence of Russia.

The Beijing leadership, unlike most Western powers, did not condemn the coup in Islamabad and has not raised questions over Pakistan's return to military rule.

Military ties between Beijing and Islamabad have been particularly close and the United States suspects China of providing Pakistan with nuclear and missile technology.

INDIAN EXPRESS
18 JAN 2000

China's support to Pak. regime

BEIJING, JAN. 17. China today offered the much-needed backing to Pakistan's military government declaring that it would continue to foster its "comprehensive partnership" with Islamabad, irrespective of changes taking place internationally or domestically.

10/1 *Shuo, Pak HO-1*
The Chinese support came during a meeting here between its Premier, Mr. Zhu Rongji, and the visiting Pakistan's Chief Executive, Gen. Pervez Musharraf. Mr. Zhu welcomed Gen. Musharraf as "the first important guest of the new millennium". — PTI

THE HINDU
18 JAN 2000

Pak regime wins Chinese support 19/1

BEIJING: Pakistani military ruler General Pervez Musharraf on Tuesday left for home after winning unconditional diplomatic and political backing from the Chinese leadership for his administration.

The unconditional Chinese backing for the Pakistani military-led government came during two days of talks between Gen. Musharraf and Chinese leaders, including President Jiang Zemin.

"China pursues a comprehensive partnership with Pakistan and would make new efforts to consolidate and advance Sino-Pakistani relations," Mr Jiang, also general secretary of the ruling Communist

Party, reportedly told the Pakistani chief executive during an afternoon meeting here.

Earlier on Tuesday, Chinese Parliament Speaker Li Peng told Gen. Musharraf that Sino-Pakistani friendship was firmly entrenched.

"The friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries had been strengthened while co-operation in political, economic, military, scientific, cultural and other fields had borne fruits," Mr Li, chairman of the National People's Congress (NPC) standing committee, said.

During talks on Monday, premier Zhu Rongji told Gen. Musharraf

that China's support for Pakistan would continue regardless of developments on the domestic or international scene.

Mr Jiang described China and Pakistan as good neighbours and that their friendship, established on the basis of the fundamental interests of the two peoples of the two countries, has stood the test of time.

"Cooperation and friendship between the two countries should be cemented in the new century," the Pakistani chief executive, who arrived here on Monday for a two-day working visit at the invitation of Mr Rongji, said.

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Musharraf in China

¹¹⁻¹⁵ EVEN IF General Pervez Musharraf feels satisfied by China's endorsement of his military rule during his recent visit to the country in contrast to the reservations which all other major powers have expressed, he cannot be unaware that Beijing's approval is almost automatic for whoever occupies the seat of power in Islamabad. The Chinese are not bothered about the mode of accession to power, a factor which persuaded the Commonwealth to express its disapproval of the coup and the US and others to call for a return to democracy. For the Chinese, it is immaterial whether a person has gained power through a democratic election or by overthrowing a legally constituted government. All that matters for it is the continuance of the friendly ties with Pakistan which, according to Mr Li Peng, "can stand the test of history." It will be safe to predict, therefore, that the same red carpet will be rolled out in Beijing to welcome General Musharraf's successor as well, for the close links between the two countries have less to do with the personalities than with policy. As long as an anti-Indian attitude remains the central point of Pakistani diplomacy, China would like to persist with its clandestine nuclear collaboration with Islamabad to keep India preoccupied with problems in the neighbourhood.

^{Sino-Pak} So far as Pakistan is concerned, it must be delighted in having at least one major power as an ally at present when its other friend, philosopher and guide — the US — is clearly uneasy about their cosy relationship during the Cold War days. However, even if China has chosen to smile at General Musharraf, unlike the others who seemingly wear a frown, its communist leaders cannot be oblivious of the threat which the Islamic fundamentalists pose in the Xinjiang province. Perhaps Beijing feels confident about suppressing them. Or it believes that General Musharraf will do the suppressing for it. But despite all the bonhomie that marked the Pakistani chief executive's visit, the unresolved problem of Xinjiang will remain a troubling factor in the otherwise smooth Sino-Pak relations.

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Musharraf fails to get Chinese support on Kashmir issue

Beijing, January 19

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News Analysis

PAKISTANI MILITARY ruler Pervez Musharraf ended his two-day visit to China with Beijing's endorsement of his regime but sans support for its stand on Kashmir that he had gone to seek.

There was no cheer on Musharraf's face when he was shown on Chinese Government television after his talks with top leaders, including President Jiang Zemin, Prime Minister Zhu Rongji and National People's Congress President Li Peng, during the last two days.

The two-day visit, which Musharraf said aimed to consolidate relations between the traditional allies, came amid what the military ruler himself acknowledged to be the lowest ebb in ties between India and Pakistan.

Musharraf, before leaving Chinese Capital Beijing last night, however, termed his visit as a fruitful one. The military ruler said: "The Chinese Government appreciates Pakistan's efforts for peaceful resolution of Kashmir."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhu Bangzao clearly pointed out that Beijing would not interfere in the Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan. But Musharraf, in an interview with CNN in Beijing, said he welcomed China's involvement to settle the problem with India.



He even accused India of instigating conflict in Kashmir and not coming forward to settle the dispute.

Zhu Bangzao said, "China hopes that all parties concerned would properly handle their divergence through peaceful negotiations and become good neighbours, friends and partners who would jointly safeguard regional peace and stability."

Referring to the October 12 military coup in Pakistan, the spokesman said, "Since Pakistan and China are friendly neighbours, China will not interfere in the internal affairs of Pakistan and respects the choice made by the Pakistani people."

Realising that overtly supporting the Pakistani claim over Kashmir might also create problems in the Muslim-dominated north-western province of Xinjiang and Tibet, China had in recent years adopted a more even-handed policy on the issue. China openly backed Pakistan's claim to all of Kashmir in the 1960s and 1970s but has in recent years

refrained from taking sides, at least publicly.

Chinese Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, during his talks with Musharraf, was quoted by the official Xinhua news agency as saying, "China believes that Musharraf will continue to properly handle the various issues presently facing Pakistan and will win more understanding and support from the international community."
(LANS)

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